Applicati n No.: 10/643,335

Docket N .: JCLA7850-D

## In the Claims

- I. (currently amended) A non-volatile read only memory device, comprising:
- a word line formed over a substrate, wherein the word line includes a metal layer and a polysilicon line;
  - a trapping layer located between the word line and the substrate; and
- a polysilicon protection line formed over the substrate, the protection line electrically connects the word line and a grounded doped region in the substrate, wherein a resistance of the polysilicon protection line is higher than that of the word line.
- 2. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein the resistance of the polysilicon protection line is higher than that of the polysilicon line of the word line.
- 3. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein the polysilicon protection line is connected to the grounded doped region through a contact.
- 4. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein the trapping layer includes a silicon oxide/silicon nitride/silicon oxide composite layer.
  - 5. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein the metal layer includes tungsten silicide.
- 6. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein the polysilicon protection line is located above an isolation region.
- 7. (original) The device of claim 6, wherein the isolation region include a field oxide layer.
- 8. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein at least portion of the polysilicon protection line is formed over the grounded doped region.